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MORE THAN 550 GOVERNMENT INFORMATION LIBRARIANS SET TO MEET FOR MAJOR CONFERENCE

In what has become the Nation's premier event for Government information librarians and those concerned with Government information dissemination programs, more than 550 Federal depository librarians and Federal agency representatives are set to attend the 8th annual Federal Depository Conference. Sponsored by the Government Printing Office (GPO), the conference is being held Monday, April 12, through Thursday, April 15, 1999, at the Holiday Inn-Bethesda, 8120 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD (301-652-2000).

The conference is being held concurrently with the 54th meeting of the Depository Library Council to the Public Printer. The Council is composed of 15 representatives of the Government information community who advise GPO on issues related to the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP). Administered by GPO, the FDLP has more than 1,350 libraries nationwide that provide local, no-fee public access to information produced by Federal agencies.

FDLP library collections include documents in print, microform, and CD-ROM formats, and provide links to Government Internet sites. In 1998, GPO distributed 14.4 million copies of approximately 39,000 tangible products in traditional and electronic formats to depository libraries. In addition, the libraries provide public access to **GPO Access**, GPO's acclaimed website (at **www.access.gpo.gov**), from which users currently retrieve an average of 19 million Federal documents each month.

The four-day conference will include demonstrations of many World Wide Web sites such as *O*Net*, *Elaws*, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics website from the Labor Department, as well as the Bureau of the Census' *American Factfinder* and the National Climatic Data Center and STAT-USA websites from the Commerce Department. The Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Cancer Institute, and the National Center for

Education Statistics, among others, will present updates on their public information activities and products. A representative from the Energy Department will discuss plans for the DOE's Virtual Library of Energy, Science, and Technology. The Director of the Agriculture Department's National Agricultural Library will speak about the USDA Digital Publications Preservation Framework. Information will be provided on the expanded test of the GPO and National Technical Information Service Depository Library Electronic Image Pilot Project.

GPO staff will discuss specifics on building the FDLP electronic collection, based on *Managing the FDLP Electronic Collection: A Policy and Planning Document* (currently available online at www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/dpos/ecplan.html). A representative of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) will be on hand to discuss the recently completed *Report on the Assessment of Electronic Government Information Products*, commissioned by GPO from NCLIS (the report is currently available at www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/nclisassessment/report.html). Demonstrations of the online *Federal Register*, the *Code of Federal Regulations*, the *U.S. Code*, and other popular databases available on **GPO Access** will also be provided. In addition, a selection of technical and information sessions for attendees will be provided, as well as tours of the National Library of Medicine, the U.S. Senate Library, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Central Library. Prior to the conference, regional librarian meetings will be held on Sunday, April 11.

For additional information, please contact Ms. Sheila McGarr, phone 202-512-1119; fax 202-512-1432; e-mail at <smcgarr@gpo.gov>; or the web site at www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/dpos/calendar.html.

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